

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANA 03529 190837Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
SAA-01 EUR-12 SSM-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 ARA-10  
/106 W

-----087879 200554Z /14

R 190810Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5403  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
USLO PEKING  
SECDEF WASHDC

S E C R E T SANA 3529

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, YE, YS, CH  
SUBJECT: PRC ROLE IN SOUTH YEMEN

1. THIRD SECRETARY OF PRC EMBASSY IN SANA, SUN PI-KAN,  
CALLED ON CHARGE ON 18 JULY AT HIS REQUEST TO DISCUSS  
DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH YEMEN. EMBOFF MAHONEY ATTENDED.

2. BURDEN OF HIS REMARKS WAS GROWING SOVIET SUCCESSES  
THROUGH MILITARY SUPPORT OF RADICAL REGIMES IN AFRICA AND  
NOW ARABIAN PENINSULA. HE SAID USG NOT DOING ENOUGH  
TO STEM THE TIDE.

3. AFTER HE HAD DESCRIBED THE COMMON INTEREST OF  
CHINA WITH PENINSULAR STATES IN LIMITING SOVIET SUCCESSES,  
CHARGE ASKED HIM WHAT PRC ROLE WOULD BE IN WAKE OF  
VICTORY OF SOVIET ELEMENT OVER ALIM RUBAYI ALI IN  
ADEN. PRC PROVIDED AID TO SOUTH YEMEN. IF PDRY WAS  
NOW A SOVIET CLIENT WOULD PRC CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AID?  
SUN THOUGHT ABOUT THAT AND SAID HE THOUGHT THEY WOULD.

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CHARGE ASKED WHY PRC WANTED TO PUT ITSELF AT ODDS SO  
SHARPLY WITH ARAB LEAGUE STATES, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN  
PENINSULA, WHICH PRESUMABLY HAD SO MANY COMMON  
INTERESTS WITH PRC. SUN SAID THAT AID WAS INTENDED  
FOR PEOPLE OF SOUTH YEMEN AND WAS PROVIDED WITHOUT  
CONDITION. CHARGE ASKED IF PRC WOULD TAKE ANY OTHER  
STEPS TO SHOW ITS DISAPPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION OF

CUBAN AND SOVIET TROOPS--WHICH SUN HAD DESCRIBED  
IN DETAIL--AGAINST NATIONALIST ELEMENTS IN SOUTH  
YEMEN, PARTICULARLY FRIEND OF PRC LIKE SALIM RUBAYI  
ALI. SUN SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW.

4. CHARGE GAVE SUN VERY BRIEF OUTLINE OF OUR  
INTENTION INVIGORATE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO YAR AND  
MENTIONED PRESENCE OF F-5 TEAM IN SANA. SUN LIKED  
THAT. A VERY INTELLIGENT MAN WITH GOOD ARABIC, HIS  
CONFIDENCE AND WEALTH OF INFORMATION BELIES HIS  
OFFICIAL STATUS AS THIRD SECRETARY. AT SEVERAL  
POINTS IN LONG DIATRIBE AGAINST SOVIET PLOTS IN AFRICA  
AND HORN WE EXPECTED HIM BURST OUT AGAINST THE  
"COMMUNIST MENANCE," BUT HE DIDN'T. WHAT HE DID DO--  
IMPLICITLY RATHER THAN EXPLICITLY--WAS AGREE TO FURTHER  
MEETINGS IN WHICH WE WOULD DISCUSS SOUTH YEMEN,  
INCLUDING REPORTS FROM PRC EMBASSY THERE. WE'LL SEE  
IF DIALOGUE CONTINUES.  
RANSOM

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D780297-0757  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 1955390  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRC ROLE IN SOUTH YEMEN  
**TAGS:** PEPR, YE, YS, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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